

## Current Practice, Design Process and BS 9999 Survey

This questionnaire is part of a study at Loughborough University.

It aims to:-

1. Investigate current practices in fire engineering.
2. Establish how BS 9999 is used and how it can be improved.
3. Collect professional's views on fire engineering.

### 1. What is your expertise in fire safety?

- |                                                      |                                           |                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Safety/Risk Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Service Personnel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architect                   | <input type="checkbox"/> End User/Client  | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Controller    |

### 2. How many years have you been involved in your profession?

- |                                    |                                    |                                     |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> 5-10 Years | <input type="checkbox"/> 10+ Years |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|

### 3. What is your job title?

- |                                                     |                                     |                                                   |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architect                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Control Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please State) _____ |                                     |                                                   |                                       |

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## Design Process

This section aims to find out more about the design process, when fire engineers get involved in the project and about validation of building designs.

### 1. Do you conduct fire risk assessments?

- |                              |                             |                              |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|

### 2. If you do a fire risk assessment, what methods or procedure do you follow?

### 3. When do you normally get involved in a project?

- |                                        |                                 |                                           |                                       |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation/Use |                                 |                                           |                                       |

### 4. When would be a more suitable time to get involved?

- |                                        |                                 |                                           |                                       |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Pre Construction | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation/Use |                                 |                                           |                                       |

5. Do you believe that the stage of the involvement of fire safety experts can affect the costs of the final project?

☐Yes ☐No

6. Do the fire safety considerations in buildings only focus on life safety?

☐Yes ☐No ☐Don't Know

7. If no, what other aspects are considered?

8. Are the majority of the buildings you manage/design/work on mainly code compliant with a few non code compliant areas within the building?

☐Yes ☐No

9. Do the non code compliant buildings or areas in buildings have to be validated or verified?

☐Yes ☐No

10. If so, how do you validate them?

11. Is there any guidance on what should be validated or verified?

☐Yes ☐No

12. How do you prove that a building is equivalent to that specified in the code?

13. Do you believe that Building Control or an Approved Inspector can REJECT plans due to a lack of understanding of fire engineering?

☐Yes ☐No

14. Do you believe that Building Control or an Approved Inspector can APPROVE plans due to a lack of understanding of fire engineering?

☐Yes ☐No

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## ***Cost***

This section focuses on the costs involved within the project.

1. In your fire safety decisions, is cost a critical factor?

☐Yes ☐No

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

This section focuses on the fire protection systems specified for a design.

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

- 1 2 3 4 5
- Not Essential ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Essential

- 1 2 3 4 5
- Not Effective Effective

## ***BS 9999***

This final section focuses on British Standard 9999 and how it is used within the fire safety environment.

**1. How often do you use BS 9999 over other current design codes?**

☐ More Often    ☐ About the same    ☐ Less Often    ☐ Don't Use It

**2. Has BS 9999 changed your methods of work?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

**3. If yes, how?**

**4. Do you think that BS 9999 is too complicated?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

**5. Are non code compliant areas still designed into buildings that use BS 9999?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

**6. Do you believe that BS 9999 reduces the scope for fire engineering?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

**7. Does BS 9999 offer a more cost effective method of design over Approved Document B or the old BS 5588?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

**8. Does the use of BS 9999 affect the design time compared to previous codes?**

☐ Increases design time    ☐ Decreases design time    ☐ No difference

**9. How is BS 9999 received by other project stakeholders?**

☐ Like it    ☐ Dislike it    ☐ No difference

**10. Part of BS 9999 focuses on building management and the management of the building after completion. Does the fire engineer supply this?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

**11. If not, who does?**

**12. Do you believe that a building designed to BS 9999 standards can help building owners and operators comply more easily with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

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## Thank you

Thank you for finishing the questionnaire, your responses are much appreciated.

**If you don't mind being contacted to discuss your answers further, please leave a contact email.**

Privacy will be respected and you details will not be passed onto anyone else.

**Email:**